

REMARKS

This amendment is offered in response to the Office Action of March 6, 2006.

Please cancel Claims 1 and 2, without prejudice or disclaimer.

The Abstract of the Disclosure has been extensively amended to overcome the objections of numbered paragraph 3 of the Office Action.

Similarly, Claims 3-5 have been extensively amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, in numbered paragraph 4 of the Office Action.

The Office Action rejected Claims 3 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by the Imedio Ocana reference (U.S. Published Patent Application 2001/0005998). However, the Imedio Ocana reference discloses a device which is quite different from the presently claimed invention. That is, the Imedio Ocana reference discloses the motor being disposed perpendicular to the operating members for locking and unlocking the cylinder lock. This is quite different from the presently claimed invention, wherein the motor is disposed linearly with respect to the operating members for locking and unlocking the cylinder lock.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) has been overcome.

The Office Action rejected Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over the Imedio Ocana reference. However, in the presently claimed invention, all operating members for locking and unlocking an electric lock are accommodated in the casing, and are also disposed in a linear relationship, and a tailpiece is arranged parallel to the motor so that cables connected to the motor do not hinder the turning movement of the rotary dish plate.

This is advantageous in that the presently claimed invention allows for constructions where the cylinder may be rotated at an angle of more than 360°, and further allowing a further

constant force to be applied to the electric cylinder, wherein the associated engagement of the rotary can or dish plate and the disc are detached from each other, so that the cylinder case may be freely rotated in manual operation.

Moreover, the Office Action states “that it is well known in the clutch art to provide a ratchet means for engaging members to allow for a free-wheeling if desired.” However, in the Imedio Ocana reference, it is not clearly described that either one of the engaging members of the engaging mechanism is provided with an inclined angle.

It is therefore respectfully submitted that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been overcome.

Moreover, the additionally cited prior art has been reviewed but has not been found to be any more pertinent than the prior art applied and distinguished above.

For all of the reasons above, it is respectfully submitted that all of the presently pending claims are in immediate condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the rejections of the claims, to enter this amendment, to allow the claims, and to pass this application to early issue.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ronald E. Brown", with a stylized flourish at the end.

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